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A few months ago, I mentioned that some survivors of the old Quorum Club on Capitol Hill were attempting to start a new club, this one in Schott's Court, the alley which runs behind the New Senate Office Building. Well, now they've done it. The Club is called "The 116," which is the address in the alley. The 80-odd members officially changed the Club's name from "Quorum" to "116" when they got their liquor license. Anyway, the other day, I had lunch there on the invitation of manager John Paleologos and I took a little tour of the place.

The building belongs to builder Al McCarthy, of Capital Properties, and it is some layout. There's a big fireplace downstairs, made of stone, and a similar one upstairs. The only bar, downstairs, is but six feet long, with two stools. There is not a painting of a nude woman in sight. Wall to wall carpet, of course. "We didn't have to do a thing to this place when we rented it," Mr. Paleologos said, "just bring in a few tables and chairs." The Club is only open for lunch. In fact, it closes at 8 p.m. every night. It's closed week-ends.

I told him that what with one thing and another, the "116" didn't sound much like the old Quorum Club. He said, "It isn't. We have no nudes, little bar space, close early . . . it's all sort of square. This is just a luncheon club. Actually, there are few places to eat on the Hill." There is no membership drive. Sooner or later, the members hope there will be 116 of them. That'll go with the address and they don't want a huge club. At the moment, several congressmen have put in applications, he said. Rep. Wright Patman (D., Tex.), lives right next door, but the members don't think he wants to join. After all, he might as well eat at home as eat there.

At any rate, lunch was swell, tho the atmosphere was subdued. Frankly, I have a feeling that the "116" isn't going to get very exciting, everything considered.

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